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TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Method and apparatus for updating data on a disk storage
medium

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method for updating first data, which have an associated first index, on a disk storage medium by storing second data, which update the stock of data in the first data, on the disk storage medium, creating a second index and storing the second index on the disk storage medium. The present invention also relates to a corresponding apparatus for storing data and to a corresponding disk storage medium.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Database systems (DBMS Database Management System) access a stock of data. This stock of data is typically stored on a hard disk. In many cases, the data are also stored in a ROM, as is the case with a voice database T9 for mobile radio telephones, for example. In addition, by way of example, telephone books are stored on optical disks, such as CD-ROMs or DVD-ROMs, to some extent.

However, storing a dynamic database on an optical medium is currently avoided. The reason for this is that the read heads for optical media have very long skip times, particularly when the starting point and the destination of the skip are at a great radial distance from one another, and an optical medium allows only a limited number of rewrite cycles in comparison with a hard disk.

The stock of data in a database is frequently provided with an index for optimizing search operations. There are a number of options for accessing an index:

1. Load the index into the main memory (e.g. DRAM) and access it there,
2. Leave the index on the disk and load it into the main